Williamsport, Sept. 27th

My Dear little boy,

I missed you sadly when noon came and no boy came around to get the horse ready. Indeed I feel the absence of you all. I must feel very much as Johnnie does when you all go and leave him alone. I feel as [], I had no friends and I suppose Johnnie feels the same way. I fund a wagon load of lumber in my buggy this morning. I have laid it all up overhead in the shed on a board. Perhaps it will be there when you come again if you ever do. I tell you Papa feels lonesome now that I know you are really gone. You were a great deal of comfort to me while here. Hope you will be as much for your Mother this winter. the boys are digging the artichokes again this afternoon. They have got a long sharp stick with which they dig them and I see them pick up a good many and shove them down their trouser legs. I suppose I shall miss you again when it comes time for the mail this evening. I miss a little boy drawing water to drink frequently and I find some little rascal eat up all my nuts, can you guess who? Sunday. This has been a [] unpleasant day. Mr. Hoyt had Ned a little while today. A brother of his wife's was killed while digging a well by a stone falling on him and drove Ned to the funeral. Tell your Mama I will write to her soon. I am too lonesome to say a word to her but am well as I hope all of you are. How are both your arms.

Aff'y Yrs,
Papa C.M. Merriman